

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FMC-04

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 COA-02 DLOS-06 TRSE-00

OMB-01 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 L-03 DRC-01 /096 W

----- 069887

R 072300Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5719

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN JOSE 4339

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, ENRG, XK, PA

SUBJECT: SHIP BUNKERS SHORTAGE

REF: (A) STATE 237972, (B) SAN JOSE 4239

1. THE COSTA RICAN GOVERNMENT ISSUED A DECREE ON NOVEMBER 28, 1973, PROHIBITING THE SALE OF DIESEL TO ALL FISHING VESSELS, FOREIGN AND COSTA RICAN, WHOSE CATCH WAS NOT FOR LOCAL CONSUMPTION OR PROCESSING AND STIPULATING THAT DIESEL SALES TO ANY OTHER TYPE OF VESSEL MUST RECEIVE PRIOR AUTHORIZATION FROM THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMY, INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE (MEIC). SINCE FOREIGN CARGO VESSELS RARELY, IF EVER, TAKE ON BUNKERS IN COSTA RICA AND AS FAR AS WE KNOW NO PROHIBITION ON THE SALE OF BUNKER C HAS BEEN PLACED, THIS DECREE SHOULD HAVE LITTLE EFFECT ON MAJOR SHIPPING. U.S. TUNA VESSELS CALLING AT PUNTARENAS MAY, HOWEVER, BE AFFECTED AND SMALL PLEASURE AND PASSENGER CRAFT COULD FACE SERIOUS PROBLEMS.

2. TO DATE THE EMBASSY IS AWARE OF ONLY TWO CASES WHERE A REQUEST FOR DIESEL WAS REFUSED (MORE ACCURATELY, IN ONE CASE, NOT ACTED UPON) TO U.S.

FLAG VESSELS. THE FIRST WAS A REQUEST MADE BY THE USNS BARTLETT FOR 10,000 GALLONS

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MADE ON DECEMBER 3 AND REPORTED IN REFERENCE B.

THIS PROBABLY WAS MORE THE RESULT OF THE ABSENCE
OF THE MINISTER AND THE LACK OF INTERPRETATIVE
REGULATIONS THAN OF ANY CONSCIOUS DESIRE TO DENY THE
BUNKERS. THE SECOND APPEARS TO BE A CASE OF OUTRIGHT
REFUSAL OF A REQUEST MADE BY THE U.S. TUNA VESSEL
KING OSCAR FOR 1,000 GALLONS OF DIESEL.

3. WITH SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO REFERENCE A THE
EMBASSY HAS REQUESTED AN APPOINTMENT WITH MINISTER
OF ECONOMY, INDUSTRY, AND COMMERCE KOGAN TO
DISCUSS THE SUBJECT OF THE GOCR'S BUNKER POLICY IN DETAIL.
VAKY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 07 DEC 1973
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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30 JUN 2005

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